

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract, paragraph [127] found at page 141, with the following amended Abstract:

5 [0127] A method and apparatus for dynamically balancing the loading of video data storage devices facilities containing video data files to facilitates the transfer of the video data files or portions of video data files from a file server system to client computing system. The method for balancing a loading of a storage device attached to multiple computing begins by acquiring a listing of locations and loading of all segments of a requested video data object including all copies of the segments of the requested data object. Those storage devices containing copies of each segment of the video data object having a least loading are selected. If the loading of the storage devices exceed their maximum capacity, is greater than the maximum loading for the storage devices, the segment is divided into sub-segments and stored to storage devices with minimum loading. The presence of all segments of the requested video data object is determined. If there are missing segments of the requested video data object, each of those missing segments is assigned a file identification and file location, such that those missing segments are retrieved from a back-up storage device and assigned to data storage devices having the least loading. The missing segments are retrieved from a back-up storage device. The segments of the requested data object are then transferred for transfer to a requesting computer system.